

# Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

December 2001

Volume 2 Issue 12

## INARRL BULLETIN 099-2001 - SK REPORT, Robert J. Bontempo Jr. W9GHA

From: Don Evilsizor  
Tuesday, November 27, 2001

SUBJECT: SK REPORT (Saturday 11-24-2001 Robert J. Bontempo Jr. W9GHA

I just sat with Bob at the MARS table during the recent hamfest at Fort Wayne November 17th and 18th. So the sad news of this SK is shocking to all who knew him.

Bob as he was known to me was frequently active on our area repeaters. Bob was very active with the Navy-Marine Corps MARS service. He was also known in the MARS services as NNNØICP. In fact he was also the Indiana state director. He will be greatly missed by everyone that has known and worked with him on the job, ham radio and the MARS program.

Bob previously held the ham call of WB9SDP.

Obituary report follows:  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Robert J. Bontempo Jr., 60, of Fort Wayne, an electronic technician with Sears for 34 years, died Saturday, Nov. 24, 2001, at Parkview Hospital.

The Fort Wayne native had taught electronics at Ivy Tech, was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, American Legion Post 82 and AC Arts Radio Club, and was a U.S. Army and Navy veteran.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara A.; a son, Dean A. of Tri Lakes; stepsons Thomas E. Hess Jr. of Wolcottville, Matthew P. Hess of Fort Wayne and Jeff M. Small of Anderson; daughters Donna M. Bender of Kendallville, Andrea L. Bontempo of Auburn and Annette N. Allison of Blue Ridge, Texas; a stepdaughter, Lisa M. Hines of Kendallville; sisters Anna M. Vebert-Hardiek, Katherine E. Baumgartner and Wendy K. Seale, all of Fort Wayne; a stepson, Sheila Adkins of Fort Wayne; brothers Larry A., Paul W. and Richard L., all of Fort Wayne; and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother.

Prayer services at 9:30 a.m. Thursday at Mungovan& Sons Memorial Chapel, 2114 S. Calhoun St., precede Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Thursday at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 4643 Gaywood Drive.

Calling is from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday with a 4 p.m. rosary service at the funeral home.

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Burial will be at Catholic Cemetery.

Memorials are to the American Diabetes Association.

Information provided by Mungovan & Sons Memorial Chapel, 2114 S. Calhoun St., 219-426-9494

NOTE: Bob was also a past board member of ACARTS

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

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Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, [wb9uza@arrl.net](mailto:wb9uza@arrl.net). Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

**Deadline is the last Friday of the month.  
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!**

## Internet Home Pages:

Fort Wayne Radio Club:  
<http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org>  
ACARTS:  
<http://www.acarts.com>

# HamSplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club

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**President's Corner**

Before I go any further with this month's editorial, I have to give the folks at ACARTS a well deserved pat on the back for another great Hamfest. Easily the best hamfest in the state, it's a pleasure to attend this function every year. Keep up the good work, fellas!

While I am handing out Kudos, the other group that needs to be congratulated is the recent upgrades and new licensees from the Hamfest. Several of the new upgrades to general were participants of our On-The-Air code practice sessions, and we are proud that we helped them to achieve their goals. In fact, the classes were so well received, we are planning to try again next spring. My personal thanks to all those who pounded the brass, like N9TB, W9GGA, and KB9WWM, and to N9NAI for spearheading the effort.

Some of you may have heard us talking on the air about a Boy Scout Venture group that we have been working on. Still in the planning stages, this cooperative effort with the regional Boy Scout office could reach out to a very large audience around Northeast Indiana. There is a potential for much mutual benefit for the scouts and ham radio. Stay tuned to this pages for information as it develops.

On December 8th, FWRC will once again do the Santa On The Air via the ATV repeater, for residents at Fort Wayne's State School. Anyone interested in helping out should please contact Clint Stedge, KB9LOF, to volunteer for this event.

Don't forget to plan December 14th for our annual Christmas Banquet. Even if this is the only club meeting you make this year, make it this one, as it is the most tasty! It is always fun and filling, so we hope to see you there!

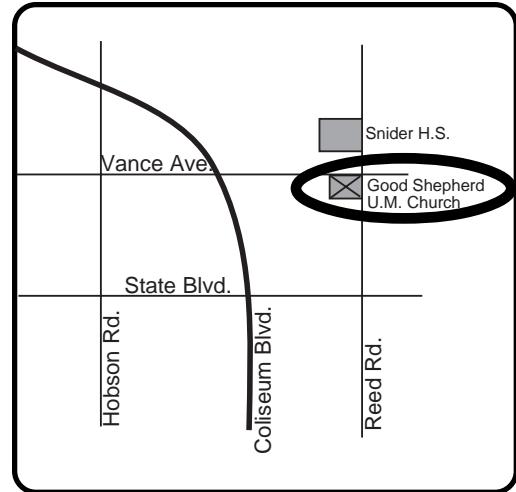
Got some great stuff that you forgot to bring to

sell at the Hamfest? In January, you get a second chance, because the FWRC annual auction will be here again! Plan now to attend, to sell your treasures and pick up some new ones. Mark your calendars for January 18th. [See N9TB's article on pg. 6.]

Since 2002 is upon us, take a moment to send in your dues for next year. (If you did not renew your membership at the Hamfest). Your dues help keep the club running smoothly and keep those repeaters on the air, despite what mother nature throws at them!

As this is my last editorial for FWRC, I want to take this opportunity to say thank you to the board and membership for allowing me to serve as their President for two years. It was truly a pleasure to lead a fine organization such as this.

73, Steve

**Dec. Meeting**

**Friday, Dec. 14, 2001, 6:30 PM**

**Program: Christmas Party**

**See pg. 3 for details.**

## Fort Wayne Radio Club Minutes

November 9, 2001

The November 2001 meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club commenced at 6:30 p.m. at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. There were about 20 people present and the meeting was hosted by President Steve Nardin.

The minutes from the October meeting were read and there was one addition added to those minutes. In regards the discussion of the repair of the Club trailer, it was requested that Kim and Jim Machamer be included in the crew identified as having performed the repairs .

Treasurer Bob Streeter provided a status of club finances as follows: As of 9 November 2001 the club had year-to-date income of \$2,460.54 and expenses of \$2,362.08. It had \$98.46 cash on hand, \$6,725.21 in checking/savings and had total assets of \$11,186.83 including the estimated value of club property.

President Steve Nardin commented that the Code and Theory class had yielded it's first success. Ben Laskowski, KB9WWL has upgraded from Technician to General. Congratulations Ben! Steve also commented that classes would continue through the week of 11 November, and that there would be VE test sessions conducted at the ACARTS Hamfest Saturday morning.

Carole Burke reminded everyone to plan for the Club Christmas Party that will occur on 14 December at Good Shepherd United Methodist Church starting at 6:30 pm. It will be a carry-in like last year's successful party, (the club will provide the cutlery, plates, etc., and attendees provide the food). The entertainment will be provided by the "Major Chords". For those wishing to participate in the gift exchange, bring a man or women's gift (suggest a \$5.00 value) and mark it "Man" / "Woman" accordingly along with your name.

Carl Rittenhouse announced the results of the November Foxhunt. Carl and Dave Evans were the fox and it was hidden in the stump of a dead tree in a field in a new subdivision just east of Tonkel Road off Dupont Road. First to find the fox were the team of N9GK and KB9NRA followed by hunters K9OMA and WB9SSE, WB9ZIF, KB9's DOT and DOS, and KB9LOF to name a few. There were a few Hams from Angola who tagged along to get some exposure to the sport. Both Carl and Dave plan to make a presenta-

tion on Foxhunting to their club in late November. This was the last hunt for the year; the next foxhunt will occur the first Sunday in February.



There was a brief discussion about the damage that occurred to the 146.76 repeater as a result of the wind and thunderstorm that recently passed through Ft. Wayne. Jim Pliett got the machine back in operation by replacing the receiver with one of the club's spares. It appears that the lightning was the most likely culprit for the failure. A question was raised as to the wisdom of installing a Polyphaser on the feedline to provide some protection from lightning strikes and it was agreed that the club would look into it.

The 50/50 Pot was \$13.00 split between the club and winner Bill Hall, WD9HII. (Bill donated his share back to the club).

Following the business meeting a presentation on QRP operation and equipment was presented including a demonstration of QRP gear brought in by several club members.

Respectfully submitted,

Al Burke, WB9SSE

## Fort Wayne Radio Club Christmas Party

The annual Fort Wayne Radio Club Christmas party will be held Friday, December 14, 2001, 6:30 P.M. at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church. It will be a total carry-in. At the last two dinners we had a grand assortment of food, I hope we can continue this trend. We all are such good cooks. The entertainment will be provided by The Major Chords. They sang for us last year and did a very fine job so we are looking forward to another fun evening. They will be a voluntary gift exchange. If you wish to participate, please bring a gift of about \$5. If you are a man, please bring a gift marked for "A Man". And if you are a lady, please bring a gift marked "A Lady". Also, PLEASE put you name in the "from" section of the tag so we know who to thank. I hate anonymous gifts. We are looking forward to good food, good entertainment and lots of fun.



Carole Burke, WB9RUS

# STATE OF THE ARTS

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

## ACARTS Officers

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## President's Message



This month's message starts on a sad note. On November 24th, Bob Bontempo, W9GHA (formerly WB9SDP) became a silent key. I have known Bob for many years, as have many other area hams. All who knew him will miss him. Remember his family in your prayers.

Another Hamfest is now history. I would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to help at the Hamfest this year. Your efforts help make our Hamfest the largest in the state, and among the largest and the best in the Midwest. Now we start work on the 2002 Hamfest. It takes almost a whole year of work and planning to put on our Hamfest.

We held our elections for 2002 officers and managers at the November meeting. The current officers and managers were reelected to another term. But we still have two vacant positions. We need a SECRETARY, and a ACTIVITIES MANAGER. If you are interested in one of the positions, or have questions about what the positions do, let me know.

By the time you get this newsletter, the ACARTS Christmas party will be a few days away. If you have not made your reservations, this is a final reminder so that we know how much food to order. For more information and details read the article about the Christmas Party. I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

73, Vic KA9LTV

## ACARTS Christmas Party

The ACARTS Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 8, at Turnstone. We will start gathering at 6:00 PM, and plan to eat around 6:30 PM. The club will provide the meat and drinks. Bring a covered dish to share.



Also bring a wrapped gift for a gift exchange. The gift should be something male or female can use. It can be something new or a gag gift. What we do then is draw a name and that per-

**Continued on page 5**

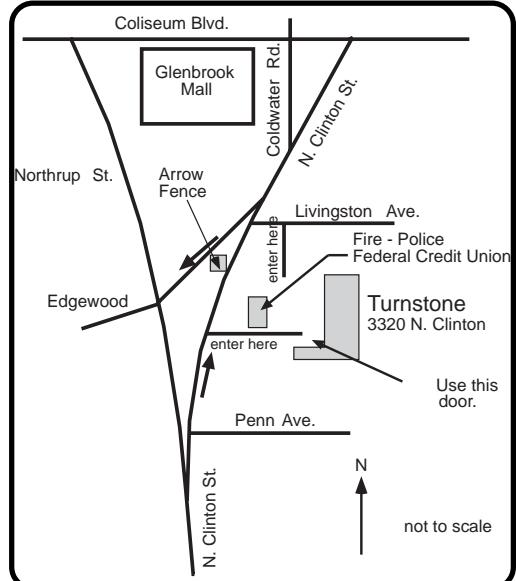
## Meeting Schedule

All meetings are at 7:30 PM at Turnstone unless otherwise noted.

**Dec. Meeting:** Christmas Party - Sat. 12/8/01, 6:00 PM. - See article pg. 5 for details.

**Board Meeting:** 12/11/2001  
All members are encouraged to attend.

**Tech Committee:** no meeting this month



## ACARTS Christmas Party - Continued from page 4

son picks out a gift and opens it. The next name drawn can pick a gift or take the gift a previous person has selected. This really gets interesting, and everyone has a lot of fun. Those who have been to the Christmas party in the past know what I am talking about.

We will also have a drawing for a door prize. We will draw for a addressable weather radio. Let me know if you plan to attend so we will know how much food to order. Send me an e-mail at <mailto:vberko@juno.com>, or call 747-0938 and leave me a message.

73, Vic, KA9LTV

## Donation Appreciated

ACARTS would like to thank Howard Kennedy, WA9FBK, for the donation of the equipment used by Irene Kennedy, WA9EZP. This equipment included a Kenwood TS-130 HF rig, a Kenwood 700A 2 meter all-mode, and numerous pieces of auxiliary equipment. Most of this equipment was sold on the club's table at the hamfest with the proceeds going to the treasury.

Howard R Pletcher, N9ADS

## FCC Says ULS Now Compatible With Internet Explorer And Netscape

from *The ARRL Letter* – The FCC has announced that its Universal Licensing System (ULS) now can be accessed using either Internet Explorer 5.5-6.0 or Netscape Navigator 4.5, 4.51, 4.61, 4.7 and 4.75. Until now, the ULS has supported only Netscape. The FCC says applicants may now use Internet Explorer to file applications and for all other ULS purposes. For more information, contact ULS <[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov)>. For questions concerning computer access to ULS, CORES registration and FCC Registration Number, TIN/Call Sign issues, or submitting attachments in ULS, contact the Technical Support Hotline, 202-414-1250, available weekdays 7 AM-10 PM, Saturdays, 8 AM-7 PM and Sundays from noon-6 PM Eastern Time. The Public Notice outlining this change is available on the FCC's Web site <[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-01-2729A1.doc](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-01-2729A1.doc)>.

## November ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.



Vic announced that the club Christmas Party will be held at Turnstone on Saturday, December 8, 2001, starting at 6:00 to 6:30 PM.

Howard, N9ADS, stated that table sales for the hamfest were going well, but were down slightly from last year.

Doug, N9NNT, reported that he has been working on the repeaters and has been trying to stabilize an intermittent problem with receiver sensitivity in the 148.88 repeater. He discussed the possibility of replacing the PA for the 147.255 transmitter so that it could be placed back in service. He also said that he found one cavity in the back of the cabinet that was broken and would have to be replaced.

A motion to adjourn was called by Richard, N9HRA, and seconded by Dave, W9LKH.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH

## November ACARTS General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vic, KA9LTV.

Doug, N9NNT, said that he purchased some spare parts at the Hamfest that will help keep the repeaters running.

Jim, KB9IH, reported that ticket sales at the Hamfest were down slightly from last year, 70 less on Saturday and about 200 less on Sunday. Total attendance including vendors and workers was not yet available. The Hamfest critique meeting will be on Tuesday, November 27, 2001 at Turnstone.

Emery, KB9IBW, stated that he has a line on a 38 foot tower that he would like to erect at Turnstone for the club station.

The floor was opened for nominations for officers and managers for 2001. There were no new nominations. A motion was made by Doug, N9NNT, to accept the slate of candidates and was seconded by Howard, N9ADS. All officers and managers from 2000 were elected to serve another term. The positions of Secretary and Activities Manager remain open.

After refreshments, the group watched a video produced by Frank Moore, WA1URA, depicting amateur radio involvement in sending messages and information out of Kuwait during the Gulf War.

Submitted by Dave Lindquist, W9LKH



**Ft Wayne DX Association  
(FWDXA) News by James  
Wolf KR9U**

## Ft Wayne DX Association

Do you know many DXers there are in the world? It's a valid question and one that John G3NUG has statistically attempted to answer. John believes that there are approximately 65,000 active DXers in the world. To this you might ask - yeah, so what? Well, this speaks to the DXer and says, hey - you're normal, (of course we knew it all along). Now, because of this, the DXer is now free to read the "How's DX?" column in QST without glancing around to see if anyone is watching. One can now buy the optional narrow filters for your HF rig without worrying if someone is going to ask you if they are for "DX use". You can roll your own amplifier, think about low angle antennas, have the gray line display on your computer, set the alarm early to check the bands or even check into a DX Packet Cluster Spotting network. Yes, being a DXer is as normal as baseball and apple pie! Well, very close anyway.

### THE BIG ONE!

P5 — North Korea. Almost everyone needs it for DXCC and only a small handful have worked it. P5 is at the very top of the "most wanted" DX list in the world. P5/4L4FN is finally putting P5 on the air. It's not a typical DX-pedition as it would be if someone or a group of operators visited North Korea with their main goal being to operate around the clock. Ed 4L4FN, who works for the U.N. World Food Program, has only verbal permission to operate amateur radio from North Korea. But without proper written permission, the contacts Ed makes will be meaningless when applied toward an ARRL DX award. Ed has been promised the sacred written permission and hopes to have it before the end of this year. His job occupies about 12 hours of his day, so giving QSOs to the needy will have to fit around his schedule. You can check this web site for the latest on Ed's operating habits and other tidbits at <http://www.amsatnet.com/p5.html>

### THE ARRL ENTITY THAT NO ONE HAS WORKED YET

Ducie Island, a new DXCC Entity, was almost activated late November. Unfortunately it was canceled at the last moment. Latest rumors are that the boat was only 80 miles from the island and had to turn back because of extremely bad weather. The addition of a new ARRL Entity does not in any way depend on the activation of that Entity. QSOs with Ducie Island will count after November 15th, 2001, but it will not be added to the DXCC List until June 1, 2002. For a country to receive ARRL accreditation it has

to meet certain criteria and Ducie Island is one of those. You can bet we will be watching for future attempts to put this new one on the air.

Do you have some extra time on your hands during the lazy Christmas holidays? How about working some DX? One of the easiest ways to know what's on the air is check into the Fort Wayne Packet Cluster. To do that, you can either connect via packet to KR9U on 144.91 MHz or connect over the Internet using a telnet program to telnet:// 24.10.89.91. You can also go to the Fort Wayne DX Assn at <http://www.qsl.net/fwdx/> and click on the blue message at the top of the web page.

I'll be sharing this column with Vicky AE9YL every other month. So watch for Vicky's perspective next month.

James Wolf KR9U

## **ARRL Approves Afghanistan Operation for DXCC**

from *The ARRL Letter* — The ARRL DXCC Desk reports it has received acceptable documentation for YA5T in Afghanistan and has approved it for DXCC credit. Afghanistan is among the top 10 "most wanted" countries. The license, which authorizes operation on all bands—including 6 meters—was issued by the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan government that's still recognized by the United Nations. YA5T will be operated by Peter Casier, ON6TT, as well as by Mats Persson, SM7PKK, Robert Kasca, S53R, and Mark Demeuleneere, ON4WW. All work for the UN World Food Program. YA5T will be on the air as their schedules permit. The DXCC documentation is for contacts made on or after November 20, 2001. No other call signs or operations have been approved. For more information, visit the YA5T Web site managed by Bruce Richards, WD4NGB <<http://www.qsl.net/ya5t/>>.

## **Fort Wayne Radio Club January Auction**

Just a reminder that January is the annual Fort Wayne Radio Club auction. The Auction will be held Friday January 18th, 2002 at 6:45 PM at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church at the corner of Reed and Vance. We moved the auction time up to assure we have plenty of time for all of your goodies. Setup will begin at 6:00 PM. Please be setup by 6:45 to avoid disturbing the auction. One change this year is to limit the 10% sales fee to the Fort Wayne Radio Club to \$20. This should benefit everyone and encourage some more expensive items at the sale. If you plan to bring items and would like to have them advertised in the January newsletter, please e-mail a description of the item(s) to me at [n9tb@arrl.net](mailto:n9tb@arrl.net) or call me at 747-2714. See you at the auction. Tom Baker / N9TB

**Severe Weather Notes: Year-End Summary,  
from Joel KB9RH**

(NOTE: the following article contains updated information on the tornado outbreak of October 24th. When the November newsletter went to press, damage surveys had not been completed.)

A small tornado that struck the north-central side of the city of Fort Wayne on May 26th and a rare October tornado outbreak highlighted the severe weather in northern Indiana and northwest Ohio this year. There were also some other smaller events, primarily in May and August.

The season began on April 9th when a small cluster of storms moved through counties to the south and southwest of Fort Wayne. Other severe storms occurred in northeastern Indiana and northwest Ohio on May 7 and May 15th.

Just when everyone was beginning to think we were not going to have a severe weather season, it was our turn. Severe weather did not take a holiday on Memorial Day when a tornado touched down late on the Saturday of the holiday weekend. According to reports from spotters in the field, the storm produced some small hail to the west and southwest of Fort Wayne, then as the storm tracked north of the downtown area, spotters reported rotation until the small tornado touched down in Northcrest Shopping Center, then continued on the ground through a residential area, caused significant damage to the Towne House Retirement Home, then continued lifting up and down into Dekalb County. Coverage on this storm was excellent, with spotters calling in reports along the entire path from Roanoke to Dekalb County.

There was a notable lack of severe weather from early July until mid-August, due in part to a heat wave and dry conditions. However, severe weather - primarily wind and heavy rain - returned on August 18th and 22nd.

The other major event of the year was a tornado outbreak on October 24th. Thunderstorms produced a total of 9 tornadoes in northern Indiana and one in Putnam County, Ohio. Allen County was spared a direct hit from those storms; however, the damage in the South Bend and Warsaw areas was significant. Spotter reports in our area were primarily of winds in the 35-40 m.p.h. range as well as heavy rainfall. One of the notable aspects of that day was that the

Storm Prediction Center determined that Indiana and northwest Ohio were at "High Risk" for severe thunderstorms. If memory serves me correctly, that had not happened since June 2, 1990.

Thanks again to all the spotters who participated this year. From the comments I heard at the Hamfest, the National Weather Service is pleased with the job we did. A hearty "well done" to everyone involved, and let's make it even better next year. Speaking of next year, the spotter training session for the 2002 severe weather season is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday February 19th.

But in the meantime...let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

from Joel KB9RH

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**CQ, CQ, CQ - Central IN Hams - Slow Scan  
TV on 2 meters**

Robbie WB9VCL (and some other Miami County ARC Hams) would like to set up a sched for Slow Scan TV on 2 meter simplex in Central Indiana.

If you are even "remotely" interested, please contact Robbie via e-mail at: [wb9vcl@netusa1.net](mailto:wb9vcl@netusa1.net)

Thanks & 73!

Vicki Rudicel KB9OME  
Pres., Grant County Amateur Radio Club  
<http://www.GrantARC.com> Chair,  
Indiana Radio Club Council (IRCC)  
<http://www.inarrl.org/ircc.html> Assistant Director,  
ARRL Central Division

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We will meet on the Peru Repeater and QSY to 146.460 every night around 7 PM. If you don't hear anyone on 146.460 call on the Peru Repeater and ask if there are any sstv'ers on the freq. This is going to be something new.

c ya de Robbie WB9VCL- Mexico, In.

The Miami Co. (Peru) Repeater is on 147.345.



## Hamfest Memories



**YK9A - Behind The Scenes #6**

Some interesting stuff

1) 4X/4Z - One of the conditions of our YK9A license was that we were not allowed to work any 4X/4Z stations, lest we'd find ourselves on the first plane out (that probably would have been the best scenario). K7AR posted this on the YK9A web site to let 4X/4Z stations know this. This resulted in an e-mail from a certain 4Z who said he was going to write the DXCC desk asking them to discredit our operation, and he said if he were us he wouldn't go on a DXpedition that had a restriction on whom you could and couldn't work.

While operating, we were called by several 4X/4Z stations. We ignored them. One 4Z even tried to sneak one past us. I received an e-mail from him saying he worked us on 160 m as LZ4DX and on 80 m as YZ4DX. He wanted a QSL showing his correct 4Z call on it. I told him I was very sorry that YK had this policy, but we are going to honor it - so no QSL for him.

2) YK9A QSL - I received a lengthy e-mail from an AH6 expressing dissatisfaction (in a nice way, though) that we were going with a simple QSL card and not an extravagant picture card. He heard that we were going with an A52A-like card (that is true, and admittedly it's a plain-Jane card) in order to have QSLs ready in time for Visalia. I told him Visalia had nothing to do with it - it was a financial decision that allowed us to use more of our donation money to buy equipment for the Syrian ARC to get a permanent club station on the air to hopefully make YK less rare. He pointed out that Americans are usually cheap when it comes to QSLs (I think I kind of agree with that) and American DXpeditions are not well-respected outside the US due to their plain QSLs (don't know about

this - any comments?). By the way - I won't even be at Visalia, so any YK9A QSLs issued there will be from Syria Slim. We've heard reports that he was active.

3) In contrast to the above two stories, I've received many e-mails saying "good job and thanks for the new one." Obviously they're all from cheap Americans who only want a QSL for DXCC credit. Hi, hi!

Carl K9LA

---

**Reminder: Be Sure To Identify Properly  
When Operating Digital Modes**

from *The ARRL Letter* – The ARRL reminds operators who are active on the digital modes, including RTTY, PSK31, packet, PACTOR and AMTOR, to identify properly in accordance with FCC Part 97 rules (Section 97.119). The rules require a station (except space or telecommand stations) to transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting frequency at the end of each communication and at least every 10 minutes during a communication. Part 97 also states: "No station may transmit unidentified communications or signals, or transmit as the station call sign any call sign not authorized to the station." Amateurs monitoring unidentified or otherwise suspicious digital transmissions should report details to FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, <rholling@fcc.gov>. Recordings of such transmissions also are invited.

**... at the end of each communication and at least every 10 minutes during a communication**

**Regional Hamfests**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Phone</u>	<u>URL or E-mail</u>
9 Dec 2001	Greenfield, IN		kb9vzl@excite.com
13 Jan 2002	South Bend, IN	219-291-0252 (7-11 PM EST)	
19 Jan 2002	Flushing, MI	810-233-7889	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/aray">http://www.qsl.net/aray</a>
20 Jan 2002	Hazel Park, MI	248-642-3608	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/w8hp">http://www.qsl.net/w8hp</a>
23 Feb 2002	LaPorte, IN	219-324-7525	<a href="http://www.geocities.com/K9JSI/">http://www.geocities.com/K9JSI/</a>
17 Mar 2002	Maumee, OH	419-385-5056	<a href="http://tmrahhamradio.org">http://tmrahhamradio.org</a>
17-19 May 2002	Dayton, OH		<a href="http://www.hamvention.org/">http://www.hamvention.org/</a>

For more complete information go to <http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm>.



## For Sale & Wanted

For Sale: JAM-P3 portable MP3 music player. 16M internal memory and slot for MultiMedia expansion card. Includes manual, software and USB interconnect cable. \$15  
Don, WB8HQS at 219-484-3317 or [wb8hqs@arrl.net](mailto:wb8hqs@arrl.net)

Wanted: New or slightly used MFJ 557 Oscillator w/ keyer to practice sending code. Jason Baker, KB9YJG, [jmbllm@yahoo.com](mailto:jmbllm@yahoo.com), or [kb9yjg@aol.com](mailto:kb9yjg@aol.com) or call 219-485-3157

Wanted: Looking for old (antique) televisions from the late 40's, particularly Hallicrafters 7-inch round tube models in the metal cabinets. Lou Phillips, N9IU at 800-788-6680 ext. 6722 or [lphillips@telemont-corp.com](mailto:lphillips@telemont-corp.com) 11-15

**NOTE:** For Sale & Wanted items will be listed for 2 months only unless the ad is resubmitted. If you sell an item the first month, please contact the editor so the item can be removed.



## Test Points

2 found within approximately 50 miles of 46801 from the ARRL VEC data base.

26-Jan-2002

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED

Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)

Contact: WALTER C VOGEL (419)394-2976

Email: [AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET](mailto:AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: EMA BLDG 1220 EAST RIDGE RD  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
VAN WERT, OH 45891

23-Feb-2002

Sponsor: UNSPONSORED

Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)

Contact: WALTER C VOGEL (419)394-2976

Email: [AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET](mailto:AWVOGEL@BRIGHT.NET)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: EMA BLDG 1220 EAST RIDGE RD  
PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED  
VAN WERT, OH 45891

## MARS Again Letting US Troops "Phone Home"

from *The ARRL Letter* – US Army Special Forces on duty in Islamabad, Pakistan, and in other undisclosed locations have begun keeping in touch with home via Military Affiliate Radio System—MARS—phone patches. Army Military Affiliate Radio System Headquarters here said that MARS members in all three services—Army, Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps—are gearing up for greatly expanded phone-patch operations as the holidays approach.

MARS phone patches make it possible for deployed troops to call their families in the US from areas where commercial connections are not available. Specially trained Amateur Radio operators enrolled in MARS provide the connection between military shortwave stations deployed overseas and the telephone system back home. During the Vietnam War, phone patches were a major source of comfort to families and service members alike. MARS responded again during Operation Desert Storm.

Phone-patching has taken on new life over the last several years as Special Forces members were deployed on peace-keeping missions to Kosovo, Macedonia, West Africa and other areas that lack regular or affordable phone service.

"Most of our contacts lasted less than 15 minutes and were to the wives," said a communications sergeant recently returned from a three-month Special Forces mission in Africa. "All the guys wanted to make sure everything was running smoothly in their absence."

Successfully completing a patch gives a big lift to the MARS amateur in the middle, too. "You never know who you will meet on these [high] frequencies," said one East Coast MARS member, who called it "a privilege" to serve as an Army MARS phone-patch operator.

These days, calls from overseas might originate from battery-powered backpack transceivers with a power of 20 W or less, but hams on the US end of the circuit using ordinary Amateur Radio gear and antennas are usually able to make a workable connection. Even the more sophisticated military base stations can experience problems, however. One overseas communicator reported that turning on a linear amplifier tripped the circuit breakers on the local power system.

Amateurs interested in joining MARS should contact their state MARS director or visit the Army MARS <<http://www.asc.army.mil/mars/>>, the Air Force MARS <<http://public.afca.scott.af.mil/public/mars1.htm>> or the Navy-Marine Corps MARS <<http://navymars.org/>> Web site.— thanks to Army MARS and Bill Sexton, N1IN

## Membership Application for FWRC - and/or - ACARTS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_ Unlisted?  Yes

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site?  Yes  No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. How would you like your newsletter delivered?  by snail mail  download from web site.

### **Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues**

Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 / year
Family membership <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$21.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.
2. K-12 or full time student

Please attach a check (number \_\_\_\_\_) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

Fort Wayne Radio Club  
PO Box 15127  
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

### **A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues**

Regular membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$12.00 / year
Additional family members <sup>1</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Student membership <sup>2</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year
Associate membership <sup>3</sup>	<input type="checkbox"/> \$6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

3. unlicensed member
4. 9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail

A.C.A.R.T.S.  
PO Box 10342  
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club.

### **ACARTS Voice Repeaters**

146.880 (-)	General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+)	General use / Autopatch priority
443.800 (+)	General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

### **ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)**

144.390 (s)	APRS - wide
145.010 (s)	General use, NETROM (FWA) - wide
223.660 (s)	BBS use ONLY NETROM (FWA220) - wide

### **Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters**

Voice:	146.76 (-)	General use; (2 sec. initial keyup delay)
	146.94 (-)	General use with autopatch
	146.91 (-)	Autopatch only
	444.875 (+)	General use
ATV:	439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control	

### **Area Traffic Nets**

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

**IMO:** meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. (2330 UTC) on 146.88

### **Area Traffic Nets - Continued**

**Auburn:** meets Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 6 p.m. (2300 UTC) on 147.015+

**21 Repeater Group:** meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 147.150

### **Miscellaneous Nets**

**Huntington ARES:** Saturday at 8:00 p.m. (0100 UTC) on 146.685

**Whitley Co./ARES:** Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. (0015 UTC) on 145.270  
(Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

**Whitley Co. Sunday:** Sundays at 7:45 p.m. (0045 UTC) on 444.550+.  
(The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

**Sloppy Code Net:** Sundays at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 40M (7.1405 MHz). This CW net's purpose is to build confidence and help increase code speed. The speed is generally 1-10 WPM. If you want to copy only contact Henry, KA9ZNN at 749-8968 for details..

**Six Meter AM net (informal):** Every Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 p.m. on 50.580 MHz .